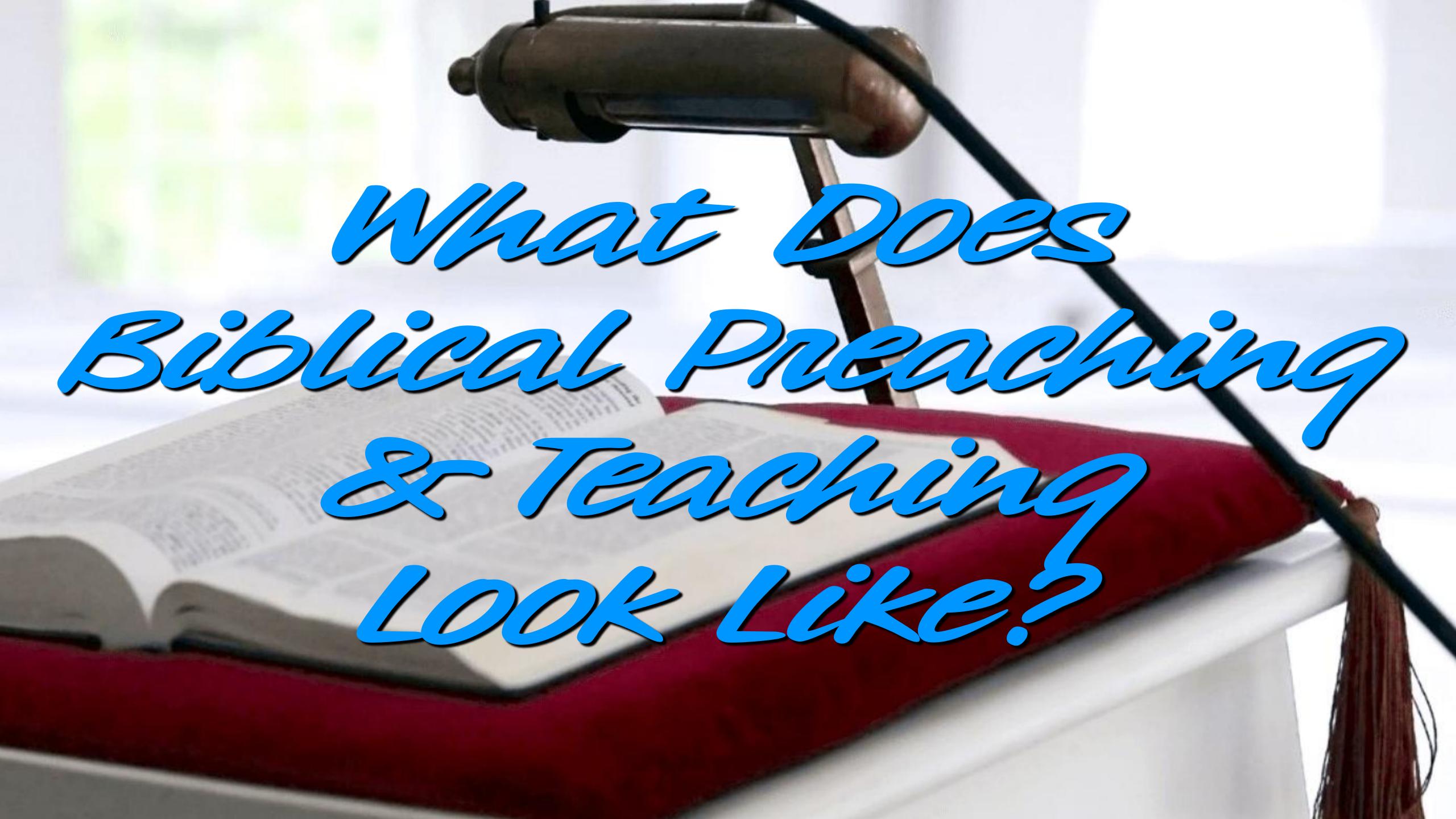
PREACH THE WORD





1 Corinthians 2:12-13

- 12. Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but (we have received) the Spirit who is from God, so that we might understand the things freely given us by God.
- 13. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

1 Corinthians 2:14-16

- 14. The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.
- 15. The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one.
- 16. "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:1-3

- 1. But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ.
- 2. I fed you with milk, not solid food, <u>for you were not ready</u> <u>for it</u>. And even now you are not yet ready,
- 3. for you are still of the flesh.

1 Corinthians 3:2-3 (Amplified Bible)

- 2. Ifed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not yet strong enough [to be ready for it]; but even yet you are not strong enough [to be ready for it],
- 3. For you are still [unspiritual, having the nature] of the flesh [under the control of ordinary impulses]

There is no difference at all between the truths of a spiritual milk diet and a spiritual solid food diet, except in detail and depth. All doctrine may have both milk and meat elements. It is not that we are to be continually learning new doctrines in order to grow, but that we are to be learning more about the doctrines we have known for years.

John MacArthur

Hebrews 5:12-14

- 12. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food,
- 13. for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child.
- 14. But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Ephesians 4:11-14

- 11. And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,
- 12. to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,
- 13. until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,
- 14. so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

1 Corinthians 13:11

When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; now that I have become a man, I am done with childish ways and have put them aside.

Spiritual retardation is always primarily our own doing. We may not have the best human preacher or teacher, but every believer has the perfect Teacher within, who longs to instruct him in the things of God. If we do not grow spiritually, the reason is always that we are still fleshly.

John MacArthur

The analogy between a human baby and a spiritual baby breaks down when we realize how each baby matures. A human baby is fed by his parents and growth is natural. But a baby Christian will only grow as much as he purposefully reads and obeys and applies the Word to his life. Growth is up to him. There are Christians who have been saved many years, but spiritually they are still babies. They cannot understand the deeper truths of the Word of God.

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Spiritual maturity is not reached by the passing of the years, but by obedience to the will of God.

Oswald Chambers

Christians who neglect the Bible simply do not mature.

John Stott

The most foolish of Christians are those who dislike doctrine and deny the importance of theology and teaching.

Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Galatians 3:29-4:1 (Berean Study Bible)

- 29. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise.
- What I am saying is that as long as the heir is a child, (an infant) he is no different from a slave, although he is the owner of everything.

2 Timothy 3:16 (according to the Bible)

All Scripture is inspired by God and beneficial for teaching, for rebuke, for correction, for training in righteousness.

2 Timothy 3:16 (according to the Bible College Principal)

All inspired Scripture is from God and all inspired Scripture is beneficial for teaching, for rebuke, for correction, for training in righteousness.

Romans 16:17

I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them.

2 John 9 -10

- 9. Anyone who goes too far and does not remain in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who remains in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.
- 10. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting

2 Timothy 2:15 (Amplified Bible)

Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth.

Acts 20:26-27

- 26. Itestify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all,
- 27. for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.

- The judgment seat of Christ will be an amazing event for every believer, but the strictest, strongest, and severest judgment is reserved for the preacher or teacher of the Word of God.
- Extreme caution must be taken to preach <u>for Christ alone</u>.
 Often I say to myself: You are not preaching for them, but for HIM!
- Keep your eye on the THRONE when preaching to the throng!
- I have nothing to prove, I have one Person to please. You can be a crowd pleaser or a Christ pleaser, but you cannot be both.

Dr. Tom Farrell

The Christian preacher is to seek the approval of God, not men. This is not to say that he should purposefully try and offend men, but he should not cater to men by sacrificing the truth of God's Word.

Jim Butler: What Does Biblical Preaching Look Like?

- True preaching starts with the presupposition that God's Word is inerrant, infallible, sufficient, and authoritative.
- God's Word is not silent on the nature of preaching, the responsibilities of the preacher, the approach to preaching, and the blessings of preaching. Thus, to form a position on preaching on any presupposition other than the Word of God is to deem Scripture non-authoritative and insufficient in leading preachers into truth. Automatically, the person who leaves the authority of Scripture replaces it with himself.

Preach & Persuade: What is Biblical Preaching?

Acts 17:11 (Berean Study Bible)

Now the Bereans were more noble-minded than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if these teachings were true.